

SUPPLEMENT TO AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
U.S. Application No. 09/933,832

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (previously presented): A method for bonding a plurality of non-magnetic members comprising the steps of:

(1) mating non-magnetic members via an uncured adhesive interposed between their surfaces to be bonded;

(2) applying pressure to the mated portions of said non-magnetic members between a pressing magnet jig and a pressure-receiving, soft-magnetic jig; and

(3) curing said adhesive while applying pressure, wherein a cushioning member is interposed only on a single side of said mated portions of said non-magnetic members between a pressing surface of said pressing magnet jig and outside surfaces of the mated portions of said non-magnetic members so as to subject the whole bonding surfaces to contacting uniformly with said adhesive, and wherein said cushioning member comprises two separate parts each interposed on the single side of the mated portions of the non-magnetic member between the pressing surface of the pressing magnetic jig and the outside surfaces of the mated portions of the non-magnetic members, said two separate parts being spaced apart sufficiently from each other to subject the whole bonding surfaces to contact uniformly.

Claim 2-18 (canceled).

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19. (currently amended): A method for bonding a plurality of non-magnetic members comprising the steps of:

(1) mating non-magnetic members via an uncured adhesive interposed between their surfaces to be bonded;

(2) applying pressure to the mated portions of said non-magnetic members between a pressing magnet jig and a pressure-receiving, soft-magnetic jig; and

(3) curing said adhesive while applying pressure, wherein a pair of non-magnetic members are bonded together, and said non-magnetic members are half-cylindrical skin members made of a fiber-reinforced composite material for constituting a fuselage of aircraft so as to reduce the weight of transport vehicles including aircraft, and

wherein a cushioning member is interposed only on a single side of said mated portions of said non-magnetic members between a pressing surface of said pressing magnet jig and outside surfaces of the mated portions of said non-magnetic members so as to subject the whole bonding surfaces to contacting uniformly with said adhesive sheet,

wherein an applying pressure for curing is in the range of 0.025 kg/cm² to 0.8 kg/cm², and wherein a ~~thermosetting~~ curing temperature of said adhesive sheet is in a range of 100 °C to 130°C, and a heat resistance temperature of said magnet is not less than 130°C.

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20. (previously presented): The method for bonding a plurality of non-magnetic members according to claim 1, wherein said adhesive is a thermosetting adhesive in the form of a sheet.

21. (previously presented): The method for bonding a plurality of non-magnetic members according to claim 19, wherein said adhesive is a thermosetting adhesive in the form of a sheet.

22. (previously presented): The method for bonding a plurality of non-magnetic members according to claim 1, wherein said pressing magnet jig comprises a handle, a jig body made of a soft-magnetic material, and magnet members.

23. (previously presented): The method for bonding a plurality of non-magnetic members according to claim 19, wherein said pressing magnet jig comprises a handle, a jig body made of a soft-magnetic material, and magnet members.

24. (currently amended): A method for bonding a plurality of non-magnetic members comprising the steps of:

(1) mating non-magnetic members via an uncured adhesive interposed between their surfaces to be bonded;

(2) applying pressure to the mated portions of said non-magnetic members between a pressing magnet jig and a pressure-receiving, soft-magnetic jig; and

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(3) curing said adhesive while applying pressure, wherein a cushioning member is interposed only on a single side of said mated portions of said non-magnetic members between a pressing surface of said pressing magnet jig and outside surfaces of the mated portions of said non-magnetic members so as to subject the whole bonding surfaces to contacting uniformly with said adhesive sheet,

wherein an applying pressure for curing is in the range of 0.025 kg/cm² to 0.8 kg/cm², and wherein a ~~thermosetting~~-curing temperature of said adhesive sheet is in a range of 10 °C to 130°C, and a heat resistance temperature of said magnet is not less than 130°C, and wherein said cushioning member comprises two separate parts each interposed on the single side of the mated portions of the non-magnetic member between the pressing surface of the pressing magnetic jig and the outside surfaces of the mated portions of the non-magnetic members, said two separate parts being spaced apart sufficiently from each other to subject the whole bonding surfaces to contact uniformly.

25. (previously presented): The method for bonding a plurality of non-magnetic members according to claim 24, wherein a rate of heating or rate of cooling is a constant rate of 2-4°C/minute.

26. (previously presented): The method for bonding a plurality of non-magnetic members according to claim 1, wherein said cushioning member is a tetrafluorocarbon sheet.

27. (previously presented): The method for bonding a plurality of non-magnetic members according to claim 19, wherein said cushioning member is a tetrafluorocarbon sheet.

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28. (previously presented): The method for bonding a plurality of non-magnetic members according to claim 24, wherein said cushioning member is a tetrafluorocarbon sheet.

29. (canceled).

30. (previously presented): The method of claim 19, wherein said cushioning member comprises two separate parts each interposed on the single side of the mated portions of the non-magnetic member between the pressing surface of the pressing magnetic jig and the outside surfaces of the mated portions of the non-magnetic members, said two separate parts being spaced apart sufficiently from each other to subject the whole bonding surfaces to contact uniformly.

31. (canceled).